availability of funds and comparative needs of various stations. Accordingly, during 1994-95, provision/extension of platform shelters was taken up at 28 stations in Kerala at a cost of Rs. 198.69 lakh.

(b) and (c) At Shertalai, platform No. 1 which deals with the important trains, is provided with 560 sqm. of shelter much above the requirement as per norms. Provision of shelter on the island platform will also be considered after it is raised to high level.

Opening of computerised train reservation office at Agartala

7182. SHRI SUDHIR RANAJ MAJUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no railway connection at Agartala, the capital of Tripura;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware of the difficulties of the people of Agartala and other parts of the State in getting rail-tickets for journeys from places like Guwahati, Calcutta, etc;

(c) if so, whether Government have any proposal to mitigate the difficulties of these people who want to avail of train service; and

(d) whether Government would consider opening of an office of N.F. Railway (Computerised System) in Agartala for selling tickets, extending reservation facilities for the passengers in Tripura for Railway Journeys from the places mentioned above?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir. However the work of new line from Kumarghat to Agartala is proposed to be taken up during 1995-96 after obtained necessary clearance.

(b) and (c) Tripura is served by the Dharmanagar Station where adequate reservation quotas are available in different trains. Quotas have also been provided to Tripura Out Agency by 11 trains including trains originating from Guwahati.

(d) At Agartala there is no rail head and there is, therefore, no railway infrastructure. Besides, the volume of reservation workload there does not justify the provision of a computer reservation terminal at present.

MOU between India and Iran for multi-modal transportation

7183. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
SHRI AAS MOHAMMAD:
SHRI J.S. RAJU:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Iran have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for collaboration in multi-modal and container transportation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which India would be benefited;

(c) the projects that India would undertake in Iran under the agreement; and

(d) the extent to which India would help Iran in the construction of rail lines?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In terms of MOU, a sub-group comprising experts in ports & Shipping, Railways, Road transportation, responsible authorities of multi-modal transport and Customs of the two Governments is to be constituted to work out the details of projects and their implementation.

(d) Indian Railway Construction Company (IRCON) and Rail India Technical and Economic Services Ltd. (RITES), two Public Sector Undertakings under Ministry of Railways will help in the execution/ implementation of the projects on commercial basis.

Supply of wagons from WIL

7184. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wagons (FWU) and the percentage thereof the total wagons (FWU) that